Book Review ‘Puitika Sastera Wanita Indonesia dan Malaysia: Satu Bacaan Ginokritik’ (Malay Version)

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Written by Norhayati Ab. Rahman, this book featured a scientific discussion in the field of comparative literature, particularly to track and demonstrate the process of poetic formation in novel writing among women authors in Indonesia and Malaysia. These novels are viewed from a galaxitical angle introduced by Elaine Showalter. This analysis applies four models in the gynocritic reading method, the women's writing and biology models, women's writing and women's languages, women's writing and female psychology as well as writing women's and women's culture. Selected texts are novels produced by women authors from Indonesia and Malaysia. The novels from Indonesia are Saman by Ayu Utami, Tarian Bumi by Oka Rusmini, Calon Arang by Toeti Heraty and Dari Lembah Ke Coolibah by Titis Basino. While from Malaysia, the novels are Menongkah Lumrah by Azmah Nordin, Isteri by Rosmini Shaari, Salam Maria by Fatimah Busu and Jalur Sinar Di Celah Daun by Zaharah Nawawi.

The application of the gynocritic models proves that women authors in Indonesia and Malaysia has made the biological, language, psychological and cultural aspects of women as a major platform in the creation of their creative writing poetry. However, there are significant differences in the way and the style of application of each element by women authors in Malaysia and Indonesia. The difference is influenced by socio-cultural background, politics and author's background in both countries. The results of this study show how women authors use their discretion in producing text meaning by defining their own history, themes, genres and their own structure of writing. The results of the analysis have shown that the work of the author of women has special qualities, and presents a new style of writing that is not stereotypical and boring. The findings also show that female authors have drawn up and structured innovations in creative writing styles that highlight the reforms in women's literary poetry.

As a scientific and literary book in the field of literature and in particular theoretical and application, this book is expected to help literary and literate students in all institutions of higher learning offer literary courses in the program of study, either at the bachelor, undergraduate or Doctor of Philosophy. It is important that such a book is never written or recorded by any party. What more is the theory used in writing this book is less well known in Malaysia, though this theory has long existed and developed in the West. Therefore, this book is believed to be the only publication in Malay which specifically introduces the gynochetical theory and its application of the Malay literature corpus. Therefore, it is hoped that this book will be used by students, literary and instructor researchers at the university level, including literary enthusiasts in Malaysia.


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